AUTODOC CLUB

How to change rear suspension lower control arm on **BMW X3 E83** – replacement guide

VIDEO TUTORIAL



Important!

This replacement procedure can be used for:
BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 316i 1.6, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 318i 1.8, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 318is 1.8, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 318is 1.8, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 320i 2.0, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 320i 2.0, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 325i 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 325i 2.5, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 325td 2.5, BMW 3 Saloon (E36) 325tds 2.5, BMW Z1 Roadster 2.5, BMW 3 Convertible (E36) 320i 2.0, BMW 3 Convertible (E36) 325i 2.5, BMW 3 Coupe (E36) 316i 1.6, BMW 3 Convertible (E36) 318i 1.8, (+ 119)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.

REPLACEMENT: REAR SUSPENSION LOWER CONTROL ARM – BMW X3 E83. TOOLS YOU NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #18
- Drive socket # 18
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Pin punch
- Hammer
- Crow bar
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Wheel chock

BUY TOOLS

Replacement: rear suspension lower control arm – BMW X3 E83. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right lower control arms.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: REAR SUSPENSION LOWER CONTROL ARM – BMW X3 E83. USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

1 Secure the wheels with chocks.

2 Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



3 Raise the rear of the car and secure on supports.



4 Unscrew the wheel bolts.



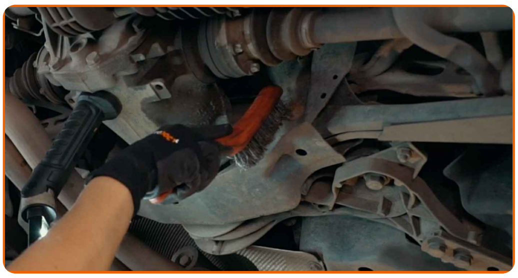
AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts.
  BMW X3 E83

5 Remove the wheel.



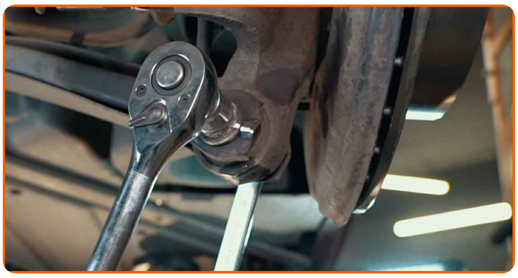
6 Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



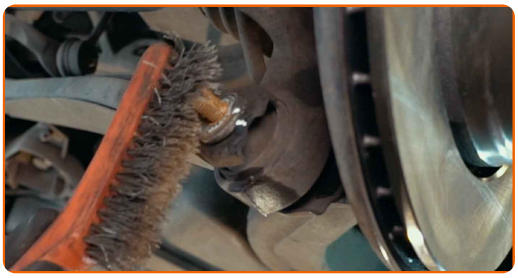
7 Make a mark on the camber adjustment bolt.



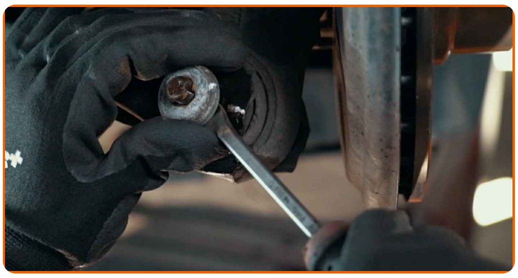
8 Unscrew the fastener connecting the control arm to the rear knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



9 Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush.



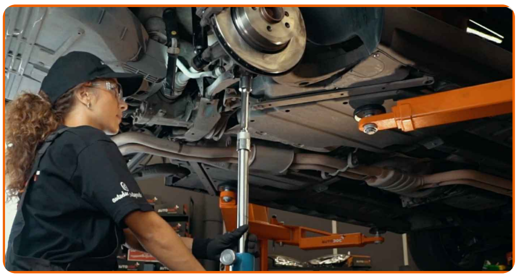
10 Remove the fastening bolt. Use a drive socket #18. Use a crowbar.



11 Unscrew the fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a drive socket #18. Use a crowbar.



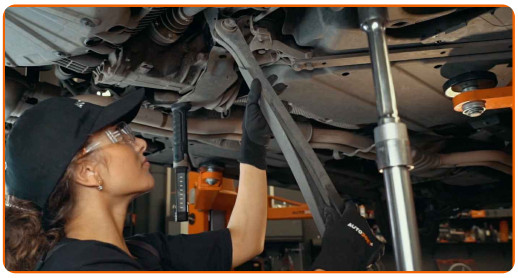
12 Support the rear knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.



13 Remove the fastening bolts. Use a pin punch. Use a hammer. Use a crowbar. Use a combination spanner #18.



14 Remove the arm.



15 Clean the mounting seats and the thread of the suspension arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



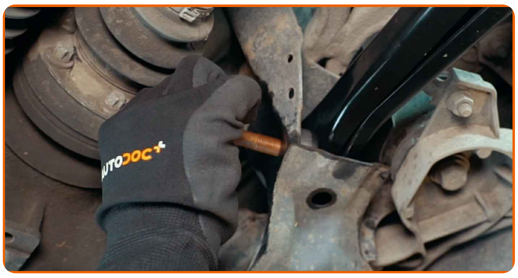
16 Install a new arm.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: rear suspension lower control arm – BMW X3 E83. Use only new bolts and nuts for installation.
- Do not damage the ball joint cover.

17 Install the control arm fasteners. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a crowbar.



18 Adjust the position of the alignment bolt according to the mark.



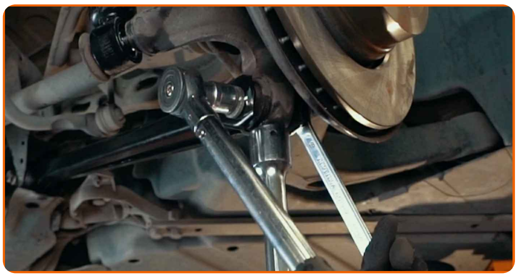
19 Screw in the fasteners connecting the control arm to the rear knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



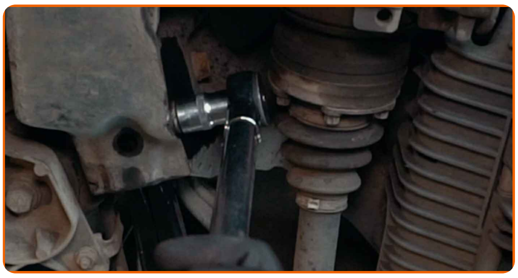
20 Raise the hydraulic transmission jack by 10-15 cm.



21 Tighten the fastener connecting the control arm to the rear knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 100 Nm torque.



22 Tighten the fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 77 Nm torque.



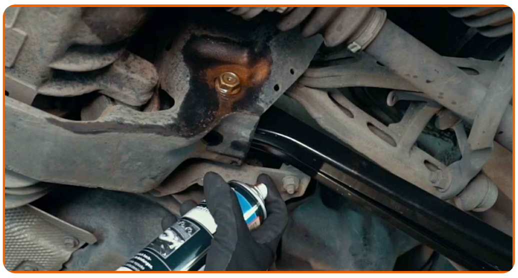
23 Remove the support from under the rear knuckle.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: rear suspension lower control arm – BMW X3 E83. Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

24 Treat all joints of the arm. Use copper grease.



25 Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush.



26 Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use copper grease.



27 Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.

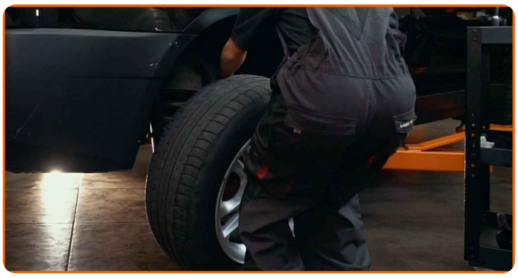


AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: rear suspension lower control arm – BMW X3 E83. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

28

Install the wheel.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts. BMW X3 E83

29

Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



30

Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 140 Nm torque.



31

Remove the jacks and chocks.

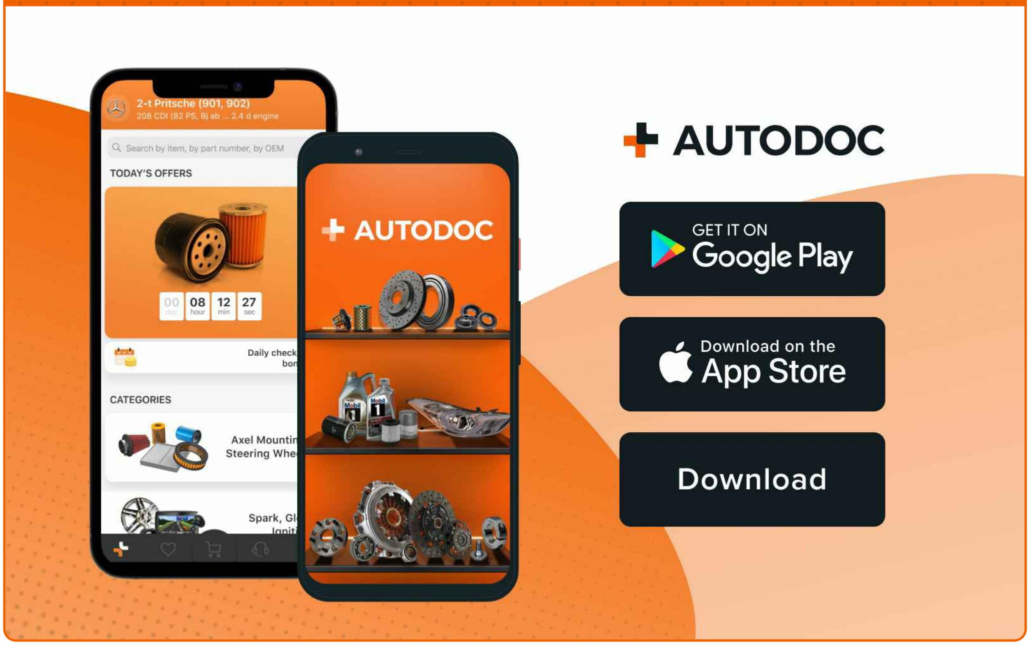


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